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Page : 2

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

--According to the first embodiment shown, the linear accelerometer 10 has a main central portion having a substantially elliptical shaped ring, with the conductive fingers 14 extending outward from the central portion and perpendicular to the sensing X-axis.

a<sup>1</sup> Accordingly, the plurality of conductive ~~finger~~ fingers 14 are arranged extending along the Y-axis. The length of the conductive fingers 14 may vary as shown such that longer conductive fingers 14 are formed at the narrower part of the central portion of mass 12, as compared to the wider part of the central portion of mass 12, to achieve a substantially round-shape for the overall configuration of the inertial mass 12 and conductive fingers 14.--